

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-13

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 SAM-01 AID-20 OMB-01 EB-11 DRC-01 /136 W

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R 010609Z FEB 74

FM AMEMBASSY SANAA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3247

USINT CAIRO

INFO AMEMBASSY SEOUL

C O N F I D E N T I A L SANAA 188

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, YE, KN, KS

SUBJ: ROK SEEKS ESTABLISHMENT OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS
WITH NORTH YEMEN

1. ROK CONSUL GENERAL IN CAIRO, AMBASSADOR WOONSANG
CHOI, SPENT SEVERAL DAYS IN SANAA DURING THIRD
WEEK IN JANUARY. HE WAS RECEIVED BY SEVERAL SENIOR
YARG OFFICIALS. HIS OBJECTIVE WAS TO ASCERTAIN WHETHER
YARG WOULD BE WILLING ACCEPT FULL DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS
WITH ROK AND EXAMINE WHAT SOUTH KOREA MIGHT BE DOING IN
YEMEN IN COMMERCE AND ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO PRODUCE
BETTER ATMOSPHERE BETWEEN NORTH YEMEN AND SOUTH KOREA
TO OFFSET YARG'S CONTACTS AND RECENT DIPLOMATIC
SUPPORT OF NORTH KOREA.

2. ACCORDING PRESIDENTIAL POLITICAL ADVISER MUHAMMAD
NU'MAN, CHOI WAS NOT EVEN OUT OF TOWN BEFORE NORTH
KOREAN CHARGE CAME IN TO PROTEST YARG'S RECEPTION OF
CHOI. PROTEST WAS STIFFLY REJECTED. CHARGE THEN ASKED
IF HE COULD REPORT THAT YARG DID NOT CONTEMPLATE ESTA-
BLISHING RELATIONS OF ANY SORT WITH GOK. CHARGE WAS
INFORMED THAT HE COULD SAY HE HAD URGED YARG NOT TO
CONSIDER RELATIONS BUT THAT YARG RESERVES ITS FREEDOM
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OF ACTION.

3. NU'MAN SAYS PRESIDENT IRYANI HAS DIRECTED THAT A STUDY BE PREPARED FOR HIM PRESENTING MERITS AND DISADVANTAGES OF ESTABLISHING SOME RELATIONSHIP WITH GOK. HE ALSO WISHES KNOWN HOW OTHER ARAB STATES HANDLE THIS. NU'MAN NOTED THAT EGYPT HAS IN CAIRO A NORTH KOREAN EMBASSY AND SOUTH KOREAN CONSULATE GENERAL. COMMENT. SINCE YEMENIS OFTEN TAKE THEIR CUE FROM EGYPTIANS IN TICKLISH DIPLOMATIC AFFAIRS, THIS MAY BE A HINT OF DIRECTION YARG WILL MOVE IN RESPONSE GOK REQUEST.

4. CAIRO PLEASE PASS FOREGOING AMBASSADOR CHOI. CRAWFORD

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NNN

Message Attributes

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